

69-203	RESETTLEMENT AGENCY, SPONSOR AND COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES	69-203
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.1 Resettlement Agency and Sponsor Responsibilities

Most of the refugees who reach a community will have been resettled by one of the national voluntary agencies (VOLAG) working with the Federal Government and will have a local sponsor. In resettling a refugee, the VOLAG and the sponsor undertake certain responsibilities as a moral commitment. These responsibilities include receiving the refugee and his/her family, providing shelter and food; providing clothing and pocket money; providing assistance in finding employment and in enrolling children in school; and covering medical costs. Once employment is obtained, the sponsor will assist the refugee in locating permanent housing, acquiring minimal furniture, and arranging for utilities. Sponsors are also expected to help the refugees with some of the less tangible aspects of adjustment to a new culture.

.2 County Responsibilities

When a time-eligible refugee applies to a county for financial assistance, the procedures outlined below shall be followed.

.21 The CWD, as part of the process of determining a time-eligible refugee's eligibility for cash assistance shall notify the national headquarters or the local office of the responsible VOLAG and:

.211 Inquire what assistance, if any, the Sponsor or VOLAG is providing for the refugee (See Section 69-206.11 regarding income eligibility determinations for assistance received from VOLAGS); and

.212 Inquire whether the refugee has refused an offer of employment or has voluntarily quit a job.

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.22 A telephone call in the absence of an in-person contact is sufficient to fulfill the requirements specified in Sections 69-203.211 and .212.

.23 A written statement by the sponsor or VOLAG is not required, but is preferred.

.24 Information received by means of an in-person contact, telephone call, or written statement shall be made part of the case record, and shall include the name of the VOLAG.

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- .25 When a VOLAG or sponsor requests the address and telephone number for a time-eligible refugee, the CWD shall provide this information to the VOLAG or sponsor.
- .26 If the refugee refuses to provide information regarding his/her sponsor or VOLAG, the CWD shall deny or discontinue aid.
- .27 Where there is an emergency need for financial assistance, or the VOLAG fails to respond in a timely manner, the requirements in .21 and .22 above shall be temporarily waived in order to meet the emergency or case approval needs.
- | .28 Some applications for cash assistance may be made when the sponsor is unable or unwilling to meet the total needs of the refugee(s) for whom he/she has accepted responsibility. When this occurs, aid is to be granted in an amount sufficient to meet the unmet needs as determined by the CalWORKs standard.
- | .29 If, following the loss of contact with a sponsor and subsequent to the granting of aid to the refugee, the resettlement agency secures a new sponsor for the refugee who accepts the responsibilities of sponsorship, and meets the needs of the refugee(s) in full, in accordance with the CalWORKs standard of assistance, cash assistance shall be terminated. Only if the subsequent sponsor fails to meet the full needs of the refugee will the county again grant cash assistance to the refugee.

.3 Repealed by Manual Letter No. SP-91-01, effective 2/1/91.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553 and 10554, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Sections 10553 and 10554; Welfare and Institutions Code, and 45 CFR 400.66.